



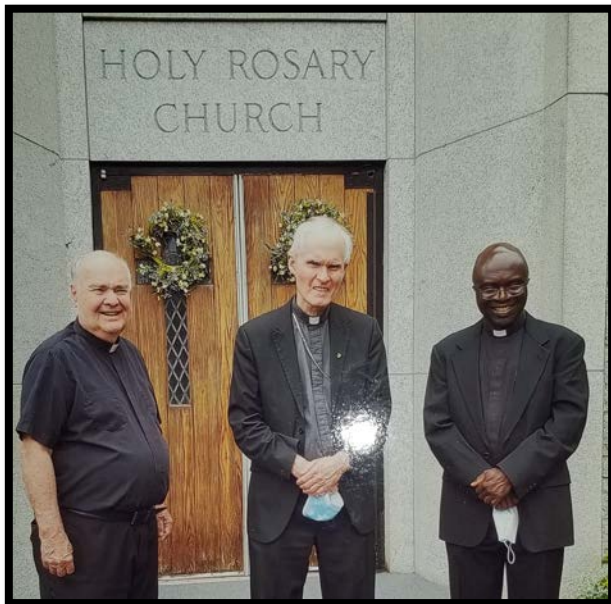
MARISTS BID FAREWELL

June 14th was a busy Sunday at Holy Rosary Church in Buckhannon, West Virginia with a Mass at 11am presided and preached by Bishop Mark Brennan, the new bishop for the diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. This was his first visit to the parish and the final liturgy with Marists as its pastoral ministers. He expressed deep appreciation for the 118 years that the Marists have been in the Diocese and valued how instrumental we had been in the early establishment of the Diocese. He spoke of Fr. Nicholas Hengers, SM (Luxembourg), the first Marist in West Virginia and how he began his missionary work in Richwood in 1902 and then moved to Buckhannon. He invited the Pallottine Sisters to set up St. Joseph Hospital near the church which is still serving the community.



Chalice belonging to Nicholas Hengers, SM found in rectory attic

In spite of the diocesan liturgical restrictions because of the Coronavirus (social distance and face masks etc.), there were 80 or so parishioners who showed up to say goodbye and thank the Marists. Bishop Brennan officially welcomed the new administrator/pastor Fr Edward Tetteh SVD. He is originally from Ghana, Africa and has served in parishes in New Jersey and Chicago and more recently has been serving in Webster Springs, West Virginia.



Pastor Joe McLaughlin, SM, Bishop Mark Brennan and new pastor Fr. Edward Tetteh SVD

Marists Joe McLaughlin, Pastor and Roy Madigan, Associate were acknowledged with much gratitude as they concluded their service to the parish community. Other Marists from Wheeling were present: John Beckley, Jim McCafferty, and Paul Cabrita, and Paul Frechette from Washington, DC.



Marist Roy Madigan, Pastoral Associate

Parishioners cooked a lovely luncheon which was served under two large tents with picnic tables and chairs, all on loan by the Hospital. And though rain was forecasted, we had sun for lunch!